



An Afghan member of a civil society organization holds flowers outside of the La Taverna du Liban restaurant, during an anti terrorism demonstration in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

Afghan president again demands U.S. airstrikes end

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)

— Afghanistan's president demanded Sunday that the United States no longer carry out military operations or airstrikes and must jump-start peace talks with the Taliban before his country signs a security deal to keep U.S. troops in Afghanistan after 2014.

President Hamid Karzai's deepening anti-American rhetoric comes as the Taliban intensifies its assaults ahead of the planned withdrawal and after Friday's militant raid on a popular Kabul restaurant, the deadliest single attack against foreign civilians in the course of the nearly 13-year U.S.-led war.

Although Karzai has made similar demands in the past, he has in recent weeks ratcheted up his condemnations of alleged U.S. failures as Afghans look fearfully ahead to an uncertain future.

Karzai made the statement after being presented with the findings of an investigation into a joint Afghan-U.S. military operation last week that resulted in civilian casualties which he blamed on a U.S. military air strike.

Continued on Page 8



DATA PLAN

From left, FBI Director James Comey, CIA Director John Brennan, and Director of National Intelligence James Clapper sit together in the front row before President Barack Obama spoke about National Security Agency (NSA) surveillance, Friday, Jan. 17, 2014, at the Justice Department in Washington.

Associated Press

Lawmakers: Obama surveillance idea won't work

LIBBY QUAID

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A chief element of President Barack Obama's attempt to overhaul U.S. surveillance will not work, leaders of Congress' intelligence committees said Sunday, pushing back against the idea that the government should cede control of how Americans' phone records are stored. Obama, under pressure to calm the controversy over government spying, said Friday he wants bulk phone data stored outside the government to reduce the risk that the records will be abused. The president said he will require a special judge's advance approval before intelligence agencies can examine someone's data and will force analysts to

keep their searches closer to suspected terrorists or organizations.

"And I think that's a very difficult thing," Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who chairs the Senate Intelligence Committee, said Sunday. "Because the whole purpose of this program is to provide instantaneous information to be able to disrupt any plot that may be taking place."

Under the surveillance program, the NSA gathers phone numbers called and the length of conversations, but not the content of the calls. Obama said the NSA sometimes needs to tap those records to find people linked to suspected terrorists. But he said eventually the bulk data should be stored somewhere out of the government's hands.

That could mean finding a way for phone companies to store the records, though some companies have balked at the idea, or it could mean creating a third-party entity to hold the records.

Feinstein said many Americans don't understand that threats persist a dozen years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. "New bombs are being devised. New terrorists are emerging, new groups. Actually, a new level of viciousness. And I think we need to be prepared," Feinstein said. Republican Rep. Mike Rogers, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said Obama had intensified a sense of uncertainty about the country's ability to root out terrorist threats. Obama didn't say who

should have control of Americans' data; he directed the attorney general and director of national intelligence to find a solution within 60 days.

"We really did need a decision on Friday, and what we got was lots of uncertainty," Rogers said. "And just in my conversations over the weekend with intelligence officials, this new level of uncertainty is already having a bit of an impact on our ability to protect Americans by finding terrorists who are trying to reach into the United States."

The lawmakers did praise the president for his defense of the National Security Agency's surveillance programs.

Continued on Page 2

Lawmakers

Continued from front

"First, I thought it was very important that the president laid out no abuses, this was not an illegal program, it wasn't a rogue agency," Rogers said.

The surveillance programs have been under fire since former National Security Agency analyst Edward Snowden absconded with an estimated 1.7 million documents related to surveillance and other NSA operations, giving the documents to journalists around the world. Revelations in the documents sparked a furor over whether Americans have been giving up privacy protections in exchange for intelligence-gathering on terrorism.

The revelations about U.S. surveillance programs have also damaged U.S. relations with key allies, including Germany following reports that the NSA had monitored communications of European citizens — even listening in on Chancellor Angela Merkel's cellphone. Obama in an interview aired Saturday on Germany's ZDF television network said he would not allow

America's massive communications surveillance capability to damage relations with Germany and other close U.S. allies.

Obama said that before the revelations he had forged a close working relationship with Merkel and that he could not allow U.S. surveillance operations to damage that trust.

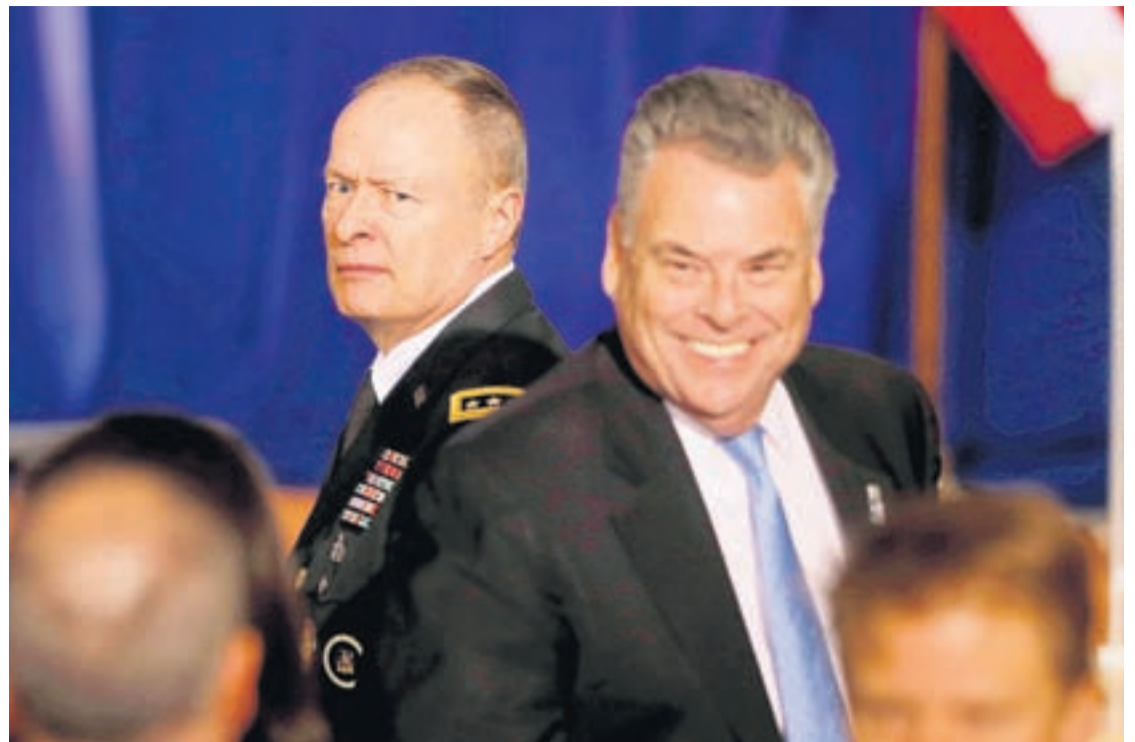
"As long as I am president of the United States, the German chancellor need not worry about that," Obama said, according to a simultaneous German translation as he spoke.

Congress will have a lot of say in how and whether Obama's ideas are carried out.

Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has proposed to end the NSA's bulk data collection program, putting him at odds with his fellow Democrat Feinstein on the issue.

Leahy said senators would have many questions for Attorney General Eric Holder when he comes before the Judiciary Committee next week.

Yet Leahy suggested Sunday he might not fight the president on allowing



National Security Agency Director Gen. Keith Alexander, left, and Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., a member of the House Intelligence and Homeland Security Committees, stand after President Barack Obama spoke about National Security Agency (NSA) surveillance, Friday, Jan. 17, 2014, at the Justice Department in Washington.

Associated Press

the NSA's surveillance programs to continue..

"No, I think we have a way that we could do this, but it's not a question of fighting the president," Leahy said on Fox.

"The question is, what is Congress going to do on this? ... I just think that there should be an oversight.

"I mean, I was a prosecutor for eight years; I believe in going after the bad guys," Leahy said. "And I realize this is an entirely different

level of the bad guys that I went after, but you still have to have some checks and balances, or you have a government that can run amok."

The chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, Rep. Michael McCaul, said on ABC that Obama was moving in the right direction.

"I think what gave most Americans heartburn was that this data was being stored under the NSA and

warehoused under the government," said McCaul.

But McCaul allowed, "I think it's very difficult to decide who has the capability to store and use this data."

Feinstein and Rogers appeared on NBC's "Meet the Press." Rogers also appeared on CNN's "State of the Union" and CBS' "Face the Nation." Leahy appeared on "Fox News Sunday." □



President Barack Obama pauses while talking about National Security Agency (NSA) surveillance, Friday, Jan. 17, 2014, at the Justice Department in Washington.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama said he doesn't think marijuana is more dangerous than alcohol, "in terms of its impact on the individual consumer."

"As has been well documented, I smoked pot as a kid, and I view it as a bad habit and a vice, not very different from the cigarettes that I smoked as a

young person up through a big chunk of my adult life. I don't think it is more dangerous than alcohol," the president said an interview with The New Yorker magazine.

Smoking marijuana is "not something I encourage, and I've told my daughters I think it's a bad idea, a waste of time, not very healthy," Obama said.

Obama: Pot is not more dangerous than alcohol

Obama's administration has given states permission to experiment with marijuana regulation, and laws recently passed in Colorado and Washington state legalizing marijuana recently went into effect.

The president said it was important for the legalization of marijuana to go forward in those states to avoid a situation in which only a few are punished while a large portion of people have broken the law at one time or another. The president said he is troubled at the disproportionate number of arrests and imprisonments of minorities for marijuana use. "Middle-class kids don't

get locked up for smoking pot, and poor kids do," he said. "And African-American kids and Latino kids are more likely to be poor and less likely to have the resources and the support to avoid unduly harsh penalties." He said in the interview that users shouldn't be locked up for long stretches of time when people writing drug laws "have probably done the same thing."

But Obama urged a cautious approach to changing marijuana laws, saying that people who think legalizing pot will solve social problems are "probably overstating the case."

"And the experiment that's

going to be taking place in Colorado and Washington is going to be, I think, a challenge," the president said. Ethan Nadelmann, the executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance praised Obama's words, saying his use of the word "important" about the new Colorado and Washington laws "really puts the wind in the sails" of the movement to end marijuana prohibition. Critics of the new laws raise concerns about public health and law enforcement, asking whether wide availability of the drug will lead to more underage drug use, more cases of driving while high and more crime. □

Mayor: Christie aides tied Sandy funds to project

TRENTON, New Jersey (AP) — New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie faces new allegations of exacting retribution for political reasons after a city's mayor accused his administration of linking millions of dollars in recovery money for Superstorm Sandy to a politically connected project.

Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer alleged Saturday that Christie's lieutenant governor and a top community development official told her recovery funds would flow to her city if she allowed a commercial development project to move forward.

Christie is already embroiled in another scandal involving traffic jams apparently manufactured to settle a political score. That scandal has tarnished Christie's image as a straight talking Republican capable of working across the partisan divide and it may threaten his standing as a leading potential presidential candidate in 2016.

Zimmer said Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno pulled her aside at an event in May and told her Sandy aid was tied to the project — a proposal

from the New York City-based Rockefeller Group aimed at prime real estate in the densely populated city across the river from New York City.

"I was directly told the by the lieutenant governor — she made it very clear — that the Rockefeller project needed to move forward or they wouldn't be able to help me," Zimmer told The Associated Press.

Christie's office denied Zimmer's claims, calling her statements politically motivated. Spokesman Colin Reed said the administration has been helping Hoboken secure assistance since Sandy struck. "Christie himself was raising money Saturday for fellow Republicans in Florida.

The fundraisers were closed to reporters.

The Sandy aid matter is the second time in recent weeks Christie's administration has been accused of exacting retribution for political reasons.

Christie's chief of staff, chief counsel, chief political strategist and two-time campaign manager



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie addresses a gathering of home owners Thursday, Jan. 16, 2014, in Manahawkin, N.J., who were affected by last year's Superstorm Sandy.

Associated Press

have all been subpoenaed for documents related to the September closing of approach lanes near the George Washington Bridge, which led to traffic chaos in the town of Fort Lee across the river from New York City.

The agency that runs the bridge,

the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, is chaired by David Samson, whose law firm, Wolff & Samson, represented the developer in the Hoboken matter, according to Zimmer. A phone message left at the firm's office was not returned Saturday. □





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3 gay Republicans trying to make election history



STEVE PEOPLES
Associated Press
MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP) — Three openly gay Republicans are trying to make history this year by becoming the first from their party to be elected

In this Nov. 23, 2009 file photo, Massachusetts State Sen. Richard Tisei shakes hands with supporters in Wakefield, Mass.

Associated Press

to Congress, but none of them has an easy path to Washington.

Candidates in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and California each must defeat a Democratic incumbent and overcome brushes with hate and confront divisions within the Republican Party about how they live their lives. The Republican Party is trying to soften its tone on divisive social issues, but many religious conservatives see homosexuality as immoral.

In New Hampshire, Dan Innis' husband persuaded him to run for the House of Representatives.

It didn't matter that Innis, a former business school dean, faced an aggressive Democratic incumbent, Republican colleagues who oppose his right to marry, and history — no Republican ever has been openly gay when first elected to Congress.

"He said, 'You've got to do this,'" recalls Innis, running in the 1st Congressional District, which covers most of eastern New Hampshire. "He said, 'You need to take this opportunity and see if you can make a difference.'"

Innis plays down his sexuality as a campaign issue, but acknowledges the historic undertones.

Innis is married to a man, as is former Massachusetts state Sen. Richard Tisei, who is expected to run again for the northeastern Massachusetts congressional seat he narrowly lost in 2012 to Democratic Rep. John Tierney.

In San Diego, former Republican city councilman Carl DeMaio is challenging first-term Democratic Rep. Scott Peters.

"You can't focus on any of the nasty comments or

attacks — not just from far right, also from far left," DeMaio says.

During his unsuccessful 2012 Republican mayoral campaign, DeMaio and his male partner of six years were booed as they walked hand in hand in San Diego's gay pride parade.

"Every once in a while we'll get some hate that is truly over the top — a truly venomous voice mail message. Every time we need a lift-me-up, we play it and chuckle," DeMaio says. "It's just a reminder that what we're fighting for matters." He is fighting his own party, too. The Republican Party's formal policy platform, as set by its 2012 national convention, declares that "marriage, the union of one man and one woman, must be upheld as the national standard."

Republican opposition to gay marriage has become less visible recently as the party works to improve its image and polling suggests that most Americans support same-sex marriage. Prominent social conservatives such as former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania and Ralph Reed, former leader of the social-conservative Christian Coalition, declined to be interviewed for this story. As a senator in 2003, Santorum, a leading candidate in the 2012 presidential primary campaign, compared homosexual acts to child molestation and bestiality.

Last month, U.S. Rep. Randy Forbes of Virginia, drew national attention for pressuring the House Republican campaign arm not to support openly gay candidates.

Continued on Page 5

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That led House Speaker John Boehner to pledge public support for gay Republicans. Boehner traveled to Massachusetts in 2012 to help raise money for Tisei, who notes that more than 70 members of Congress supported his last campaign. Still, Tisei says the Republican Party must do more to change the perception that "we're the party that wants to deny people their rights and interfere with their personal lives." In particular, he says Republicans need gay members in their ranks to help shift their mindset on key policies. "It would be a lot harder to take positions that discriminate against people when you have (gay) people in the room you work with on a daily basis that you like and know," Tisei says.

Democrats currently have eight openly gay members serving in Congress, including Wisconsin Sen. Tammy Baldwin, who last year became the nation's first openly gay U.S. senator. There have been no openly gay Republicans in Congress since Rep. Jim Kolbe of Arizona retired in 2006. First elected in 1984, Kolbe didn't disclose his sexual orientation until 1996. Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin served more than a decade before a Republican colleague publicly disclosed Gunderson's sexual orientation on the House floor in 1994. Gunderson did not seek reelection in 1996. In the 2014 election, the number of openly gay House candidates overwhelmingly favors Democrats, according to a list compiled by the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund, which works to elect gay

candidates at all levels. Of 14 openly gay candidates expected to run, 11 are Democrats, including six incumbents and high-profile challenger Sean Eldridge of New York, the husband of Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes. Considered top-tier challengers, Tisei and DeMaio recently teamed up to raise money in joint appearances across the country for a newly formed political action committee known as the Equality Leadership Fund. In New Hampshire, Innis is trying to unseat Democratic incumbent Carol Shea-Porter. But he must first survive a Republican primary contest against Frank Guinta, a former congressman unseated in the last election. With long ties to the business community, Innis is expected to have strong financial backing in an election he says will be decided on fiscal issues such as moving toward a balanced budget. New Hampshire Republican strategist Jamie Burnett says he doesn't know whether candidates' sexual orientation helps or hurts their electoral prospects. "Some social conservatives might object, but many Republicans might not care at all and perhaps see it as softening the party's image," he says. "This is uncharted territory in recent New Hampshire Republican politics." □



In this Jan. 13, 2014 photo, New Hampshire Republican Congressional candidate Dan Innis, right, poses with his partner Doug Palardy, in Portsmouth, N.H. Associated Press

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13 arrested in protest of Calif. officer acquittal

A demonstrator holds a sign in front of the police at a crosswalk in Fullerton, Calif., Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014 during a demonstration protesting the acquittal of two former California police officers in the beating death of homeless man Kelly Thomas.

Associated Press



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FULLERTON, California (AP)

— A protest over the acquittal of two former California police officers in the beating death of a homeless man turned violent Saturday when someone assaulted a TV camerawoman, resulting in at least 13 arrests, police said. The protest against Monday's acquittal of two former Fullerton officers in the 2011 death of Kelly Thomas drew about 200 people, police Sgt. Jeff Stuart said. He said most of the protesters were peaceful, but some took over intersections, blocked streets and vandalized business. Video broadcast by KCBS-TV show someone whose face was covered by a bandanna striking the camerawoman. She fled into her news van, and her crew called police when a group surrounded the vehicle, Stuart said. The attack prompted police to declare the protest an unlawful assembly. Officers in riot gear came to disperse the crowd, and

arrested at least 10 people for not complying, Stuart said.

In addition, police arrested the assault suspect and two others for scrawling an obscenity and an anarchist symbol on police property. The Los Angeles Times reports that Thomas' father thanked the demonstrators at a rally in front of the Fullerton Police Department. He said that without their protests in the summer of 2011, his son's case might not have ended up with a trial at all.

"If you were here for 2011, for the protests," Ron Thomas said, "give yourself a hand. You are the people, you made this happen." Kelly Thomas, 37, died five days after a violent confrontation with six officers in July 2011. A surveillance camera captured him screaming for his father and begging for air as the police officers kned him, jolted him with an electric stun gun and used the blunt end to strike him around the face and head. □

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LA-area fire wanes; dangerous conditions remain

GLENDORA, California (AP)

— Firefighters said Sunday they were making steady progress in surrounding a wildfire near Los Angeles that destroyed several homes.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department said the fire was 78 percent contained, with full containment expected Wednesday.

Meanwhile, hundreds of residents who fled the blaze in suburbs about 25 miles (40 kilometers) northeast of downtown Los Angeles returned home Saturday evening as red-flag warnings of extremely dangerous fire conditions expired. Officials cautioned that bone-dry winter conditions remain a threat for the region.

Crews focused on securing fire lines around the roughly 3-square-mile (7.8-square-kilometer) blaze and looked ahead to rehabilitating the burn area to prevent erosion and possible mudslides, said U.S. Forest Service spokesman Robert Brady. "It's starting to look fairly good," Brady said. "We're still in very dry conditions,



Firefighter Jeff Newby watches a fire burn as he battles the Colby Fire on Friday, Jan. 17, 2014, near Azusa, Calif.

Associated Press

so I would remind people to be careful out there." The fire erupted early Thursday in the Angeles National Forest when Santa Ana winds hit a campfire that authorities said was recklessly set by three men. Gusts quickly spread flames from the San Gabriel Mountains into Glendora and Azusa, where some

3,700 people had to evacuate at the fire's peak.

Five homes were destroyed and 17 other houses, garages and other structures were damaged, according to early assessments.

The state is in a period of extended dry weather compounded in Southern California by repeated periods of the regional Santa Anas, dry and powerful winds that blow from the interior toward the coast, pushing back the normal flow of moist ocean air and raising temperatures to summerlike levels.

The dry conditions statewide led Gov. Jerry Brown to formally declare a drought emergency Friday in order to seek a range of federal assistance. □

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Afghan

Continued from front

The U.S.-led international military coalition, however, provided a sharply different account Sunday of what happened during the two-day operation against insurgents in eastern Parwan province, saying it was an Afghan-led effort and carried out at the request of the government. Karzai convened his National Security Council on Sunday to discuss the Parwan attack.

"Airstrikes are a matter of concern for the Afghan people. The National Security Council said there should be an immediate end to all operations and airstrikes by foreign forces," a statement said.

Karzai sent a delegation to investigate the Jan. 15 airstrike in the Ghorband district of Parwan province, which borders Kabul. The delegation blamed the U.S. for ordering an operation it said killed 12 civilians and four Taliban fighters. It further said local authorities were not informed about the operation.



Afghan members of civil society organizations chant slogans as they march in a street of Wazir Akbar Khan, during an anti terrorism demonstration in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.
Associated Press

The coalition, which is carrying out its own investigation, said the government was not only aware but had requested the operation ahead of the country's April 5 presidential elections because the area had fallen under Taliban control.

"The operation was requested by the governor in response to those conditions," the coalition said in a statement. "The resulting plan, approved through the Ministry of Defense, was a deliberate clearing operation to disrupt insurg-

gent activity, based on intelligence obtained primarily by Afghan forces."

The coalition said a team of more than 70 Afghan commandos with a few U.S. Special Operations Forces carried out the operation. Senior U.S. military officials, who requested anonymity as they weren't allowed to brief journalists about an ongoing investigation, said the commandos came under heavy fire almost immediately. An Afghan commando and U.S. soldier were killed, they said.

Afghan National Security Forces had nine U.S. advisers with them when they became trapped by withering fire from residential homes, they said.

"At that point, the ANSF and coalition advisers were unable to maneuver or withdraw without sustaining significant casualties. The combined force required defensive air support in order to suppress enemy fire from two compounds," the coalition statement said.

One senior U.S. military official said the decision to ask for air support was taken "in extremis" by the Afghan ground commander. The official said there were two civilians killed and one wounded.

Karzai's comments come as he has declined to sign an agreement allowing some U.S. forces to stay past the planned withdrawal. Karzai tentatively endorsed the deal after it was completed last October, but first refused to sign it until after it was approved by a council of tribal elders known as the Loya Jirga in November.

But after the elders approved it, Karzai still declined to sign it, now saying

he wants his successor to decide after the elections. The U.S. had wanted the deal to be signed by Dec. 31 because it needs time to prepare to keep thousands of U.S. troops in the country for up to a decade. NATO allies also have said they won't stay if the Americans pull out.

The agreement aims to help train and develop Afghan forces, while also allowing for a smaller counterterrorism force to pursue al-Qaida fighters and other groups.

Karzai again demanded Sunday that the U.S. do more to start talks with the Taliban, although an American effort to get them going through intermediaries in Qatar collapsed last summer. The Taliban have refused to talk directly with Karzai, his government or its representatives.

Karzai's statement further warned that the country risked slipping into "feudalism" if his conditions were not met.

Meanwhile Sunday, hundreds of Afghans gathered outside a Lebanese restaurant in Kabul to protest against a Taliban assault there that killed 21 people Friday. □

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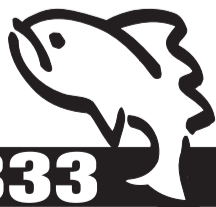


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Turkish police break up violent Internet protest



Riot police use a water cannon to disperse protesters during a rally against a bill which would, among other things, allow Turkey's telecommunications authority to directly block access to websites or remove content deemed to be violating privacy without a court decision, in Istanbul, Turkey, Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014.

Associated Press

SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Riot police on Saturday fired plastic bullets, tear gas and water cannons at hundreds of people in Istanbul protesting a government plan to expand controls over the

public's use of the Internet. Police took action after some protesters hurled firebombs at officers.

Plainclothes police were seen arresting some demonstrators and escorting them to police vehicles. There weren't any imme-

diates reports of injuries. Police broke up groups of protesters who gathered at the city's main hub, Taksim, and along a main street to denounce the draft bill that would allow Turkey's telecommunications authority to block websites or remove content accused of privacy violations without a court decision, and force service providers to keep Internet users' data for two years.

Critics say that would expand the government's already tight grip on the Internet.

The government rejects accusations of censorship, saying the move aims to protect privacy. The measure comes as Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government is fighting a corruption probe targeting people close to him — the worst crisis it has faced during its 11 years in power. □

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Ukraine protests turn into fiery street battles

MARIA DANILOVA

Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Anti-government protests in Ukraine's capital escalated into fiery street battles with police Sunday as thousands of demonstrators hurled rocks and firebombs to set police vehicles ablaze. Dozens of officers and protesters were injured.

Police responded with stun grenades, tear gas and water cannons, but were outnumbered by the protesters. Many of the riot police held their shields over their heads to protect themselves from the projectiles thrown by demonstrators on the other side of a cordon of buses.

The violence was a sharp escalation of Ukraine's two-month political crisis, which has brought round-the-clock protest gatherings, but had been largely peaceful.

Opposition leader Vitali Klitschko tried to persuade demonstrators to stop their unrest, but failed and was sprayed by a fire extinguisher in the process. Klitschko later traveled to President Viktor Yanukovich's suburban residence and said the president has agreed to negotiate.

"There are only two ways for events to develop. The first one is not to negotiate," Klitschko was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency. "A scenario of force can be unpredictable and I don't rule out the possibility of a civil war. ... And here we are using all possibilities in order to prevent bloodshed."

Yanukovich said later on his Web site that he has tasked a working group, headed by national security council head Andriy Klyuev, to meet with opposition representatives to work out a solution to the crisis. However, it was unclear if either side was prepared for real compromise;

throughout the crisis, the opposition has insisted on the government's resignation and calling early presidential elections.

The U.S. Embassy called for an end to the violence. "We urge calm and call on all sides to cease any acts

strators wore hardhats and masks in defiance of the new laws. They set several police buses on fire and some chased and beat officers.

Police responded with tear gas and stun grenades. Water cannons were also

echoed and plumes of smoke rose above the crowd. Activists chanted "Shame!" and "Revolution." The Interior Ministry said more than 70 police were injured, four of them seriously; there were no immediate figures for protest-

is worth losing at least one human life," protest leader Arseniy Yatsenyuk said from the stage at the central square as the clashes dragged late into the evening a few hundred meters away. "That is why I condemn the violence that



A protester throws a stone towards a burning police bus in front of him, during clashes with police, in central Kiev, Ukraine, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

provoking or resulting in violence," it said in a statement.

The crisis erupted in November after Yanukovich's decision to freeze ties with the European Union and seek a huge bailout from Russia. The decision sparked protests, which increased in size and determination after police twice violently dispersed demonstrators. But anger rose substantially after Yanukovich last week signed an array of laws severely limiting protests and banning the wearing of helmets and gas masks.

Many of Sunday's demon-

strators fired at the protesters in temperatures of -8 C (18 F), but the clashes continued. The harsh new laws brought a crowd of tens of thousands to the protest at Kiev's central square on Sunday. While most remained on the square, a group of radicals marched toward a police cordon several hundred meters away blocking an area housing government offices and began attacking riot police with sticks to push their way toward Ukraine's parliament building. The crowd then swelled to thousands.

The blasts of stun grenades

er injuries.

The ministry also said a criminal case had been opened on charges of mass disorder; convictions under that charge could bring prison sentences of up to 15 years.

Klitschko's top allies, who stood by his side at the peaceful rally earlier in the day, didn't show up at the site of the clashes for the most of the day. Instead, they called for a peaceful means of protest from nearby Independence Square and condemned the clashes.

"No power in the country

took place just now."

Scores of opposition leaders and journalists have been attacked, harassed and prosecuted, since the anti-government protests started Nov. 21.

Yanukovich's government has ignored previous demands made by the opposition. Opposition leaders denounced Yanukovich's legislation as unconstitutional and called for the formation of parallel governing structures in the country.

"The power in Ukraine belongs to the people," Yatsenyuk said. □

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Russian Islamic video threatens Sochi Olympics



In this Monday, Dec. 30, 2013 file photo bodies of victims of a suicide bombing lie in what left of a trolleybus in downtown Volgograd, southern Russia.

Associated Press

LYNN BERRY

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — An Islamic militant group in Russia's North Caucasus claimed responsibility Sunday for twin suicide bombings in the southern city of Volgograd last month and posted a video threatening to strike the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. There had been no previous claim of responsibility for the bombings, which killed 34 people and

heightened security fears before next month's Winter Games. In the video, two Russian-speaking men warned President Vladimir Putin that "If you hold these Olympics, we will give you a present for the innocent Muslim blood being spilled all around the world: In Afghanistan, in Somalia, in Syria." They added that "for the tourists who come, there will be a present, too."

In a statement posted with the video on its website, the militant group Vilayat Dagestan claimed responsibility for the Volgograd bombings.

The video claims that the two men, identified as Su-leiman and Abdurakhman, were the suicide bombers and purports to show the explosives being prepared and strapped to their bodies.

There was no immediate reaction to the video from the Russian security services.

During much of the 49-minute video, the two men speak to the camera while holding Kalashnikov automatic rifles. Behind them hang black banners with Arabic religious phrases similar to those used by al-Qaida.

Vilayat Dagestan is one of the groups that make up the so-called Caucasus Emirate, which seeks to establish an independent Islamic state in the North Caucasus, a region just to the east of Sochi on Russia's southern border.

Dagestan, one of several predominantly Muslim republics in the North Caucasus, has become the center of the Islamic insurgency that has spread throughout the region following separatist wars in neighboring Chechnya. In response to the terrorist threat, Russia has introduced sweeping security measures for the Sochi Games.

The Chechen leader of the Caucasus Emirate, Doku Umarov, had ordered a

halt to attacks on civilian targets in 2012, but he rescinded that order in July and urged his followers to try to undermine the Olympics.

The Kremlin-backed leader of Chechnya claimed last week that Umarov was dead, but the claim couldn't be verified.

The Vilayat Dagestan statement said the Volgograd attacks were carried out in part because of Umarov's order, but didn't specifically say he had ordered them. □

Fire ruins parts of historical village in Norway



The charred remains of a house in the village of Laerdal, Norway, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Officials say a large fire has blazed through a historical village famous for its well-preserved wooden houses from the 18th and 19th centuries, destroying at least 23 buildings.

The municipality of Laerdal, in western Norway, said in a statement Sunday that 52 people have been hospitalized with light injuries and hundreds had been evacuated from their homes.

It said the fire burnt down 16 homes, as well as industrial buildings, community centers and holiday homes. It also destroyed at least three buildings in the protected area of the village of Laerdalsoyri.

It wasn't immediately clear what caused the fire, which started Saturday night and quickly spread, exacerbated by strong winds. □

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Japanese mayor opposed to U.S. air base re-elected

YURIKO NAGANO

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — A Japanese mayor who opposes moving a U.S. military base to his city in Okinawa won a hard-fought re-election battle Sunday, dealing a potential blow to hopes in Washington and Tokyo that the long-delayed plan would move forward.

Nago city Mayor Susumu Inamine, who has vowed to block construction of the base by denying permits for the project, declared victory before 500 supporters at the city's civic center.

The U.S. and Japan agreed in 1996 to move the Marines Corps Futenma air station to Nago from a more congested part of Okinawa, but many Okinawans want the base off their is-

land completely.

The plan got a boost last month when the governor of Okinawa gave the go-ahead for land reclamation to build the new base, whose runways would extend over water from the U.S. military's existing Camp Schwab. Opponents filed a lawsuit last week seeking to invalidate the governor's approval.

Inamine's victory will make it more difficult to move forward, analysts said.

"I don't think it'll be easy now for the U.S. base to be relocated, but I think there is a limit to what a local mayor can do," said Toshiyuki Shikata, a former Japanese military officer and professor of political science at Teikyo University in Tokyo.

The Futenma air station would be moved from Ginowan city to sparsely populated Henoko district in Nago, because of concerns about aircraft noise, accidents in civilian areas and base-related crimes such as rape. The proposed move is part of a broader plan to consolidate and reduce the U.S. military presence in Okinawa, currently home to about half of the U.S. troops in Japan.

Pre-election opinion polls by Okinawa media showed about 84 percent of Nago residents opposed moving the base to Henoko. Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, which supports the move, wooed voters with promises of additional development funds for the city.



Nago city Mayor Susumu Inamine, center right, and his wife Ritsuko celebrate after he was re-elected in the mayoral election in Nago, on the southern Japanese island of Okinawa, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

Inamine got 19,839 votes, versus pro-base challenger Bunshin Suematsu, who received 15,684.

"Despite all the efforts, the Liberal Democratic Party has lost," said Koichi Nakano, professor of political science at Sophia University in Tokyo. "I think it reflects how strongly people are

opposed to a base relocation."

Before the vote, Hitoshi Morine, a spokesman for the Japanese Defense Ministry in Okinawa, said the government is planning to seek bids soon for drilling surveys of the seafloor bedrock to begin designing the base. □

Panama Canal work not likely to be halted Monday

PANAMA CITY (AP) — The Spanish-led consortium hired to handle the biggest part of the Panama Canal expansion said Sunday it does not foresee halting work Monday, but added that it's an option if there is no resolution to a financial dispute.

The canal-building consortium known as United for the Canal said in a brief statement that stopping the expansion "is not a scenario being considered at this moment." But it says it's entitled to suspend work any time after Monday.

The group has given Panamanian Canal authorities a Sunday deadline to come up with the funds to cover \$1.6 billion in cost overruns. The authority insists the



In this Jan. 11, 2014 photo, cranes tower over the construction site of the Panama Canal's Atlantic side in Gatun, north of Panama City.

Associated Press

consortium live up to the terms of the original contract.

No agreement had been reached as of Sunday.

The expansion project, now 72 percent complete, would double the capacity of the 50-mile (80-kilometer) canal, which carries between 5 and 6 percent of world commerce.

The consortium blames the cost overruns largely on problems with the studies carried out by the Panamanian authority before work began. It says that geological obstacles it has encountered while excavating have prevented it from getting the basalt it needs to make the massive amounts of cement required for the expansion. □

Iran prepares for start of landmark nuclear deal

NASSER KARIMI

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Ahead of the start of a nuclear deal between Iran and world powers, an official in the Islamic Republic called limiting uranium enrichment and diluting its stockpile the country's "most important commitments," state radio reported Sunday.

The comments by Behrouz Kamalvandi, a spokesman of Iran's atomic department, show how the government of moderate President Hassan Rouhani welcomes the deal, which begins Monday. International inspectors also already have arrived in Tehran, preparing for the government opening its facilities to them.

"Implementation of mutual commitments in the framework of the Geneva deal will begin from tomorrow," Kamalvandi said. "Under the agreement, suspension of 20-percent enrichment of uranium — and the diluting of the current stockpile of enriched uranium — are the most important commitments of our country." Iran struck the deal in No-



In this Oct. 26, 2010 file photo, a worker rides a bicycle in front of the reactor building of the Bushehr nuclear power plant, just outside the southern city of Bushehr, Iran.

Associated Press

vember with the so-called P5+1 countries — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States. Negotiators agreed to final terms of the deal Jan. 13.

Under the agreement, Iran will limit its uranium enrichment to 5 percent — the grade commonly used to power reactors. The deal also commits Iran to stop

producing 20 percent enriched uranium — which is only a technical step away from weapons-grade material — and to neutralize its 20 percent stockpile over the six months.

In exchange, economic sanctions Iran faces would be eased for six months. Senior officials in U.S. President Barack Obama's administration have put the

total relief figure at some \$7 billion.

During the six months, negotiations between Iran and the world powers would continue in hopes of reaching a permanent deal.

The West fears Iran's nuclear program could allow it to build an atomic weapon. Iran insists its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, like power generation and medical research.

On Saturday a team of international inspectors arrived in Tehran in preparation of beginning their inspections. They will visit Fordo, where Iran enriches its 20 percent uranium, as well as its Natanz facility, which produces 5 percent enriched uranium, to ensure the country complies

with the deal.

Kamalvandi said Sunday that Iran will use centrifuges now producing 20 percent enriched uranium to instead produce 5 percent enriched uranium to comply with the agreement.

But suspicions remain high in both Tehran and Washington after decades of hostility dating back to the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran that ousted the U.S.-backed shah dynasty. Rouhani, Iran's new reformist president, has reached out to the West, but must depend on support from Iran's top decision-maker, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, for his initiatives amid criticism from hard-line factions.

Hard-liners in Iran have already called the deal a "poison chalice" and are threatening legislation to increase uranium enrichment. Meanwhile, U.S. lawmakers have threatened to pass new sanctions legislation against Iran that would take effect if Tehran violates the interim nuclear deal or lets it expire without a follow-up accord.

Writing a post on his Facebook page Sunday, Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif reassured the world that the deal will begin on time.

"I am hopeful that implementation of the first phase will have positive results for the country and peace and stability in the region and the world while preparing the ground for essential talks on a final solution," Zarif wrote.

Mexico objects to U.S. execution of Mexican man

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The Mexican government said Sunday it "strongly rejects" the execution scheduled this week in Texas of a Mexican man convicted of killing a police officer.

The Foreign Relations Department said in a statement that executing Edgar Tamayo would be yet another U.S. violation of an international treaty involving such cases.

Tamayo is set for lethal injection Wednesday for the 1994 fatal shooting of a police officer who had arrested him for a robbery.

Mexico has been asking the United States to halt Tamayo's execution because the inmate wasn't told he could get legal help from the Mexican government as agreed under the

1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

Tamayo's lawyers say assistance from the Mexican consulate could have helped him obtain mitigating evidence to persuade jurors to choose a punishment other than death.

Legal challenges regarding the convention and foreign nationals on Texas death row aren't new. At least two other Texas inmates in similar circumstances have been executed in recent years. In 2004, the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands, found Tamayo and more than four dozen Mexican citizens awaiting execution in the United States weren't advised of their consular rights under the Vienna Convention

when they were arrested. The court urged new hearings in courts where those people were convicted to determine if consular access would have affected their cases. A year later, President George W. Bush agreed with the international court and urged that new hearings be held. The U.S. Supreme Court, however, overruled Bush and the impact of the international court decision in an appeal brought by Mexican national and Texas death row inmate Jose Medellin. A Supreme Court majority determined that only Congress could require states to follow the international court's ruling. Legislation to accomplish that has never been passed.





Paula Citron honored at the Renaissance Ocean Suites



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very special and lovely lady who is a loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, at the Renaissance Ocean Suites as

Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive

years. The honoree was Mrs. Paula Citron from Toronto Canada. Paula is a loyal member of the Renaissance Ocean Suites and she loves Aruba very much because of the

friendly people, safety, the climate, beaches, restaurants, great entertainment and being on Aruba and staying at the Renaissance Ocean Suite is like being home for her. The certifi-

cates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Linda Garcia and staff members of the Renaissance Ocean Suites. □

Loyal visitors honored at the Caribbean Palm Village



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very nice couples whom are loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Caribbean palm Village as Am-

bassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20 or more consecutive

years. The honorees were Mr. Robert and Mrs. Virginia Querrera from Watertown Connecticut and Mr. Bruce and Mrs. Sandra Robbins from Stanley N. Carolina.

The honorees are loyal members of the Caribbean Palm Village and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and being on Aruba

and staying at the Caribbean Palm Village is like being home for them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Mislady



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Recently, ATA representative Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure in honoring many loyal Aruba visitors with their distinctive certificates.

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Ana Ivanovic of Serbia celebrates her win over Serena Williams of the U.S. during their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014. Associated Press

Ana Ivanovic ends Serena Williams' long winning streak

DENNIS PASSA

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— Moments before she started pounding the first of her many winners past Serena Williams at the Australian Open, Ana Ivanovic listened intently to the announcer on Rod Laver Arena outlining the extraordinary accomplishments of the woman soon to be across the net from her.

Williams, a five-time champion at Melbourne Park, won 78 of her 82 matches in 2013, and was coming into the fourth round on the second-longest winning streak of her career — 25 matches.

It was her 70th match at the Australian Open, a record in the Open Era. And then, of course, there's the 17 major singles championships. "When we were starting the match and they were talking about all her Grand Slam titles, it was quite impressive," Ivanovic said, recalling the pre-match introductions.

Continued on Page 21



Toronto Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan, front left, is fouled by Los Angeles Lakers guard Nick Young (0) during fourth-quarter NBA basketball game action in Toronto, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

Young scores 29, L.A. beats Raptors

By IAN HARRISON

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) - Nick Young returned from suspension to score 29 points, Pau Gasol had 22 and the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Toronto Raptors 112-106 on Sunday, just their third win in 15 games.

Young, who was suspended for Friday's victory at Boston after throwing a punch at Phoenix's Goran Dragic last Wednesday, scored 14 points in the fourth quarter as the Lakers overcame a 19-point first-half deficit. They won

back-to-back games for the first time since beating Memphis on Dec. 17 and Minnesota on Dec. 20.

Ryan Kelly scored 17 in his first career start and Kendall Marshall had 10 points and 11 assists. The Lakers reached the midway point of the season with a record of 16-25.

DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points, Kyle Lowry had 21 and Patrick Patterson 17 as Toronto's six-game home winning streak came to an end.

The Raptors, who won 106-94 at Los Angeles on Dec.

8, failed to record the first season sweep over the Lakers in franchise history.

Amir Johnson had 13, Greivis Vasquez 11 and Terrence Ross 10 for the Raptors, who have never won consecutive home games against the Lakers.

Vasquez made a hook shot, then stole a pass from Jodie Meeks and, after a pair of misses, banked in a jumper to put the Raptors up 94-91 with 6:42 left.

Young's 3-pointer with 3:40 to go gave the Lakers a 100-96 lead, their biggest of the game to that point,

causing Toronto to call timeout.

Amir Johnson later fouled Kelly on a 3-point attempt, and the rookie calmly drained all three free throws to give Los Angeles a 105-101 lead with 1:58 remaining.

Young's third 3-pointer of the fourth quarter put Los Angeles up 108-103 with 1:21 to go.

The Raptors led 50-31 with 7:33 left in the second quarter. But Wesley Johnson hit back-to-back 3-pointers as the Lakers rallied to cut the gap to 58-54 at halftime. □



Seattle Seahawks' Russell Wilson (3) fumbles as he is hit by San Francisco 49ers' Aldon Smith during the first half of the NFL football NFC Championship game Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014, in Seattle. Associated Press

By **BARRY WILNER**
AP Pro Football Writer

SEATTLE (AP) -- The Seattle Seahawks are bringing their game-changing defense - and the 12th Man - to the Big Apple for the Super Bowl.

Seattle's top-ranked defense forced three fourth-quarter turnovers, and Russell Wilson threw a 35-yard touchdown pass on fourth down for the winning points in a 23-17 victory over the San Francisco 49ers for the NFC title Sunday.

Seattle will meet Denver (15-3) for the NFL title in two weeks in the New Jersey Meadowlands. It's the first trip to the big game for the Seahawks (15-3) since they lost to Pittsburgh after the 2005 season.

The conference champs had the best records in the league this year, the first time the top seeds have gotten to the Super Bowl since the 2010 game.

Moments after Richard Sherman tipped Colin Kaepernick's pass to teammate Malcolm Smith for the clinching interception, the All-Pro cornerback jumped into the stands behind the end zone, saluting the Seahawks' raucous fans. With 12th Man flags waving ev-

erywhere, and "New York, New York" blaring over the loudspeakers, CenturyLink Field rocked like never before.

"That's as sweet as it gets," Sherman said.

"This is really special," added coach Pete Carroll, who has turned around the Seahawks in four seasons in charge. "It would really be a mistake to not remember the connection and the relationship between this football team and the 12th Man and these fans. It's unbelievable."

San Francisco (14-5) led 17-13 when Wilson, given a free play as Aldon Smith jumped offside, hurled the ball to Jermaine Kearse, who made a leaping catch in the end zone.

Steven Hauschka then kicked his third field goal, and Smith intercepted in the end zone on the 49ers' final possession.

"This feels even sweeter, with the amazing support we have had from the 12th Man," team owner Paul Allen said, comparing this Super Bowl trip to the previous one.

Until Seattle's top-ranked defense forced a fumble and had two picks in the final period, the game

Seahawks rally, beat 49ers 23-17 for NFC title

was marked by big offensive plays in the second half. That was somewhat shocking considering the strength of both teams' defenses. And those plays came rapidly.

Marshawn Lynch, in full Beast Mode, ran over a teammate and then outsped the 49ers to the corner of the end zone for a 40-yard TD, making it 10-10. Kaepernick then was responsible for consecutive 22-yard gains, hitting Michael Crabtree, then rushing to the Seattle 28. His fumble on the next play was recovered by center Jonathan Goodwin, who even lumbered for 2 yards. Anquan Boldin outleapt All-Pro safety Thomas on

the next play for a 26-yard touchdown.

Then, Doug Baldwin, who played for 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh at Stanford, stepped up - and through San Francisco's coverage - on a scintillating 69-yard kickoff return that made the stadium shake for the first time all day.

That set up Hauschka's 40-yard field goal. And a frantic finish.

Seattle took its first lead on Wilson's throw to Kearse with 13:44 left, and CenturyLink rocked again.

The place went silent soon after when Niners All-Pro linebacker NaVorro Bowman sustained an ugly left knee injury midway and was carted off. □



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New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) is sacked by Denver Broncos defensive tackle Terrance Knighton, bottom, during the second half of the AFC Championship NFL playoff football game in Denver, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

Manning to Super Bowl, Broncos beat Pats 26-16

touchdown drives in which nothing came cheap. Manning geared down the no-huddle, hurry-up offense that helped him set records for touchdown passes and yardage this season and made the Broncos the highest-scoring team in history. The result: A pair of scoring drives that lasted a few seconds over seven minutes; they were the two longest, time-wise, of the season for the Broncos (15-3).

Manning capped the second with a 3-yard pass to Demaryius Thomas — who got inside the over-matched Alfonzo Dennard and left his feet to make the catch — for a 20-3 lead midway through the third quarter.

From there, it was catch-up time for Brady and the Pats, and they are not built for that.

A team that averaged more than 200 yards on the ground the last three weeks didn't have much quick-strike capability. Brady, who threw for most of his 277 yards in come-back mode, actually led the Patriots to a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns. But they were a pair of time-consuming, 80-yard drives. The second cut the deficit to 26-16 with 3:07 left, but the Broncos stopped Shane Vereen on the 2-point conversion and the celebration was on in Denver.

Manning insisted the showdown against Brady was more Broncos vs. Patriots than Manning vs. Brady. He lets others decide who's the greatest at this or that. But he earned a chance to improve on his already-sterling legacy, one that figures to include a fifth MVP award come Super Bowl week.

A win at MetLife Stadium would put him in the same company as his brother, Eli, along with John Elway, Roger Staubach and others as a two-time Super Bowl winner. □

EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

DENVER (AP) — Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos are heading to the Super Bowl after a 26-16 victory over Tom Brady and the New England Patriots.

Less than three years after being unable to throw a football because of his surgically ravaged neck and nerve endings, Manning will get a chance for his second title. He'll try to become the first quarterback to win one with two different teams, at the Meadowlands on Feb. 2 against Seattle or San Francisco, who play later Sunday for the NFC championship.

After taking the final knee, Manning stuffed the football in his helmet and ran to the 30-yard line to shake hands with Brady. The Indy-turned-Denver quarterback improved to 5-10 lifetime against New England's QB but 2-1 in AFC title games.

It was far from a fireworks show in this, the 15th installment of the NFL's two best quarterbacks of their generation. But Manning, who finished 32 for 43 for 400 yards and two short touchdown passes, set up four field goals by Matt Prater and put his stamp on this one with a pair of long, meticulous and mistake-free

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RESIDENCES

Ana Ivanovic

Continued from Page 18

"But I didn't think much about the occasion and who I was playing, because it can get overwhelming."

True to her word, Ivanovic, who had never won a set against Williams in four previous meetings, took on the biggest serve in women's tennis without fear. And she hit pinpoint forehands — 20 of 33 winners were on that side — to all areas of the court. Williams, who later revealed she was carrying a back injury, didn't even bother trying to chase some of them down.

Just under two hours later, it was game, set and match: 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 and an upset victory to put Ivanovic into the quarterfinals of the Australian Open for the first time since her run to the final in 2008.

"It's not easy playing such a champion ... but she is also just a human," said Ivanovic. "I just went out there swinging."

Williams never got into the swing of things, at least not to way Ivanovic expected. She noticed from the outset that Williams' serve seemed to lack its usual zip. Williams also made some very uncharacteristic errors on her backhand, a telltale sign of back pain. "It wasn't the best," Williams admitted later,



Serena Williams of the U.S. appeals a point as she plays Ana Ivanovic of Serbia during their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

sounding surprised when asked about the back injury. Her coach had let it slip after the players walked off the court that Williams had been experiencing back pain for days.

"Again, I don't want to blame anything. I feel like Ana deserves all the credit," Williams added. "I feel she played unbelievable today. I think she went for her shots. It's not like I gave her the match."

Ivanovic will next play 19-year-old Canadian Eugenie Bouchard, who had

a 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-0 win over local hope Casey Dellacqua. The other quarterfinal in Ivanovic's half will feature two-time finalist Li Na, who beat No. 22 Ekaterina Makarova 6-2, 6-0, and No. 28 Flavia Pennetta, who defeated No. 9 Angelique Kerber 6-1, 4-6, 7-5.

The men's draw progressed more according to rankings when three-time defending champion Novak Djokovic and No. 3 David Ferrer advanced to the quarterfinals, along with No. 7 Tomas Berdych and

No. 8 Stanislas Wawrinka.

Djokovic continued his bid for a fourth straight Australian title with a 6-3, 6-0, 6-2 win over Fabio Fognini. Ferrer beat Florian Mayer 6-7 (5), 7-5, 6-2, 6-1 and will next play Berdych, the 2010 Wimbledon finalist.

Djokovic will play Wawrinka, who finished off the Sunday night program at Rod Laver with a 6-3, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5) win over Tommy Robredo.

"I've been elevating my game as the tournament is going on," said Djokovic,

who later entertained the crowd with an impersonation of his new coach, Boris Becker. "The general feeling on the court, all the shots, using the court position really well, being aggressive, playing my style of the game."

On Monday, Djokovic's major threats to the title — top-seeded Rafael Nadal, Wimbledon champion Andy Murray and 17-time Grand Slam singles winner Roger Federer — will play their fourth-round matches. Two-time defending champion Victoria Azarenka and No. 3 Maria Sharapova are in action on the women's side.

Ivanovic will have the day off — she's planning a celebratory dinner with some of her Serbian relatives who live in Melbourne.

Asked if having Williams out of any Grand Slam makes a difference, Ivanovic said it "definitely" did, then explained why in effusive terms. "I think she's done so much for the sport, and she's still doing it," Ivanovic said. "She's such a great athlete and a great person to have on tour. We want her, because it pushes us." With the challenge met on Sunday, Ivanovic, at the urging of several fans, attempted to throw a souvenir towel into the stands. The breeze blew it back at her. She was plainly off the mark, perhaps for the only time all day. □



Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia makes a forehand return to Maria Sharapova of Russia during their fourth round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Jan. 20, 2014.

Associated Press

Sharapova out in another early upset in Australia

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— Maria Sharapova followed Serena Williams out of the Australian Open in the fourth round, losing 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 to Dominika Cibulkova on Monday in the second major upset in 24 hours on Rod Laver Arena. Third-seeded Sharapova struggled with her serve, getting broken four straight games after failing to serve out the first set.

After taking an off-court medical time out after the second set for what ap-

peared to be a lower back problem, she had seven double-faults in the third set.

The four-time major winner was two tournaments into a comeback from a prolonged layoff with a right shoulder injury.

Top-ranked Williams was knocked out in a three-set loss to 14th-seeded Ana Ivanovic on Sunday, and later revealed she had a back problem that had her considering withdrawing from the tournament. □

Jones, Williams picked for U.S. bobsled team

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Sports Writer

Lauryn Williams and Lolo Jones have been selected for the U.S. bobsled team that will compete in next month's Sochi Olympics. They are now positioned to join a group of eight other Americans who have competed in both the Summer and Winter Games. Williams is a three-time summer Olympian who helped the U.S. win a gold medal in the 400-meter relay at the London Games. Jones is a two-time veteran of the summer games in the 100-meter hurdles, missing out on gold in Beijing after a late stumble.



Lauryn Williams, left, and Lolo Jones of the United States pose for media after winning the two-women Bob World Cup race in Innsbruck, Austria, on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014. Associated Press

Jones, Williams and Aja Evans were the three women chosen out of a six-woman pool for the push athlete spots, that word coming at a team meeting where half the candidates saw their Olympic dreams realized and the other half saw them come to a quiet end. "I was definitely very nervous entering the room," Jones said. "I'm usually used to looking up at a screen after I cross the finish line to see the results.

You're just like anxious, armpits are sweating, don't know what's going to happen."

Jones was one hurdle away from winning gold at the Beijing Olympics, then finished fourth at the London Games. Looking for a break from the spotlight but not sports, she turned to bobsled in the fall of 2012, winning a World Cup medal in her first race and quickly announcing herself as a legit Sochi contender.

Baseball Roundup

Scherzer, Davis reach deals, 39 in arbitration



In this Sept. 23, 2013, photo, Baltimore Orioles' Chris Davis bats during a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays in St. Petersburg, Fla. Davis and the Orioles agreed to a \$10.35 million deal Friday, Jan. 17, 2014. Associated Press

RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Detroit pitcher Max Scherzer and major league home run champion Chris Davis of Baltimore reached lucrative new deals on Friday as Major League Baseball players and teams swapped proposed figures

in salary arbitration.

Of the 146 players who filed for arbitration earlier in the week, 91 reached agreements Friday, leaving 39 headed toward hearings next month.

Scherzer and the Detroit Tigers reached a one-season deal for \$15.525 million while Davis and the Orioles

agreed at \$10.35 million.

Detroit general manager Dave Dombrowski said Friday the short-term agreement with Scherzer, who won the 2013 Cy Young award as the American League's top pitcher, does not preclude a lengthier deal before opening day. The National League's Cy Young winner Clayton Kershaw and the Los Angeles Dodgers formally announced their \$215 million, seven-year contract, a record for a pitcher and at \$30.7 million the highest average salary in baseball history.

Among the players still in arbitration, Cleveland pitcher Justin Masterson asked for the most at \$11.8 million, with the Indians offering \$8.05 million. The \$3.75 million gap is the largest among the pending cases.

Cincinnati pitcher Homer Bailey had the second-highest request at \$11.6 million, with the Reds offering \$8.7 million.



Shani Davis of the United States skates in the men's 1,000 meters race at the World Sprint Speed Skating Championships in Nagano, central Japan, Saturday, Jan. 18, 2014. Associated Press

Davis, Richardson win at world sprint speedskating

NAGANO, Japan (AP) — Shani Davis and Heather Richardson of the United States won their 1,000-meter races at the world sprint speedskating championships on Sunday. Davis clocked a time of 1 minute, 08.96 seconds to edge Denis Kuzin of Kazakhstan by 0.58 seconds. Michel Mulder of the Netherlands was third in 1:09.96. Richardson posted a time of 1:15.28 to win the wom-

en's 1,000, beating China's Hong Zhang by 0.16 seconds.

Margot Boer of the Netherlands took third place with a time of 1:16.12.

The world sprint speed skating championships features 50 of the fastest sprinters in the world competing in 500 and 1,000 meter races.

Mulder won the men's 500 race in a time of 35.12, 0.05 seconds ahead of Daniel Greig of Australia. Keiichiro

Nagashima of Japan finished third in 35.28.

Jing Yu of China won the women's 500 with a time of 37.72, adding to her win in the same event on Saturday. Boer was second 0.33 seconds behind Yu. Richardson placed third in 38.04 seconds.

Mulder won the overall men's title, which combines results from both days of competition while Yu won the women's title.



Larrazabal wins Abu Dhabi Championship

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Spain's Pablo Larrazabal shot a final round 67 to end a near three-year winless drought to capture the Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship on Sunday.

Larrazabal, 30, won by a stroke with a 14-under par 274 on the National Course in the UAE capital. Rory McIlroy (68), who had incurred a two-stroke penalty a day earlier, finished with a share of second place with Phil Mickelson (69) on 13-under.

"It means a lot to win my third victory on Tour and playing against who I played today," said Larrazabal.

"Of course, I play against myself but I knew who I also had behind me in Mickelson. I have just beaten two of the three most talented guys in my era, and in the last era, as well in Phil Mickelson and Rory.

Mickelson was left counting the cost of incurring a shot penalty after a double hit while playing from



Pablo Larrazabal of Spain holds the trophy winning the final round of the Abu Dhabi HSBC Golf Championship in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Sunday Jan. 19, 2014.

Associated Press

brush on the 13th hole of the National course.

The British Open champion, who was leading at the time, finished the hole with a triple-bogey seven.

"I was sitting at the presentation ceremony I said to myself: 'Pablo? What are you doing here?' I've got Rory McIlroy on my left and I am shaking the hand of Phil Mickelson on my right. It's very special for me," added Larrazabal after

collecting the trophy.

"But it's been a long journey and a lot of work since my last win in Munich, and only my team and my family know how hard I have worked for this victory with no holidays, and not too many days off this winter, just working hard to arrive here properly and in form to Abu Dhabi. So, yes happy days."

While Mickelson was returning home for his first PGA

event of the New Year, at this coming week's Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines, McIlroy is returning to nearby Dubai to continue working on his game.

It is the second occasion in three years he has let slip victory in Abu Dhabi because of a rules violation.

"It happens, it happens but it never crossed my mind I might double hit it," Mickelson said.

"I was just trying to dribble it out of the bush because I couldn't get the unplayable penalty lie to give me a shot without stroke and distance and I felt it was worth the risk. It not only cost a penalty shot, but it also stopped the ball from going to a spot where I could hit again.

"So after that I got refocused and got aggressive and made some birdies and gave myself a chance. If Pablo had not birdied the last hole to win, I would have gotten into a play-off, and so I give him a lot of credit for finishing the tournament off the right way," he added.

McIlroy had been penalized for illegally brushing sand off his line on the final day of the 2012 event before losing by a stroke to England's Robert Rock.

On Saturday, the double Major winner was slapped with a two-shot penalty after being reported by the caddy of another player in not taking 'full relief' from a spectator cross walk.

"I can't describe how frustrating it is and feeling like I should be standing here at 15-under par for the tournament and winning by one," McIlroy said.

"It is a very positive start to the season so I'm not to let one little negative ruin that. It was not to I finished one behind on the 18th that it started he o dawn on me if what happened yesterday had not happened, I would have won.

"But Pablo played well, and I can't take anything away from him. When he needed to, he hit the shots, and the two shots he hit into 18 were straight out of the drawer, so fair play to him. □

Patrick Reed holds on to win Humana Challenge

JOHN NICHOLSON

AP Sports Writer

LA QUINTA, California (AP) — Patrick Reed followed three straight 9-under 63s with a 1-under 71 on Sunday at PGA West's Arnold Palmer Private Course, which was enough to beat Ryan Palmer by two strokes at the Humana Challenge. Reed lost his putting touch for a few hours in the final round, but found it when things were getting interesting.

"It was tough out there," Reed said.

Finally resembling the player who talked Saturday about being in a "putting coma," Reed ran in an 18-footer for birdie on the par-3 15th to push his advantage to three strokes and parred the final three holes. He completed the wire-to-wire victory at

28-under 260.

"I started toward the end playing for par, just because I knew pars weren't going to hurt me," Reed said. "I knew someone was going to have to do something spectacular to catch me."

The 23-year-old Reed has two victories in his first 46 PGA Tour starts, winning the Wyndham Championship in a playoff in August. He was projected to jump from 73rd to 42nd in the world ranking, enough to lock up a spot next month in the 64-man Match Play Championship field.

Palmer made a 15-foot eagle putt on the final hole for a 63.

"What can you do with what Patrick did this week?" Palmer said. "It's ridiculous what he did. Amazing how good he played. We'll

come up a couple short, but it was a win in my game because I was playing for second today."

Zach Johnson and Justin Leonard tied for third at 25 under. Johnson birdied the final five holes for a 62, the best round of the week. Leonard parred his last two for a 65.

"I got red hot at the end," Johnson said. "I played really good early, missed a couple putts, but I made a bunch at the end."

The Kapalua winner is taking a four-week break. He'll return for the Match Play event in Arizona.

"I know it's a necessity, I know it's good for me, it's good for my family, but I'm also hesitant because I'm playing well," Johnson said. "Hopefully, I can maintain where I'm at. Maintain my posture and my fundamen-



Patrick Reed waves after winning the Humana Challenge golf tournament on the Palmer Private course at PGA West, Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014 in La Quinta, Calif.

Associated Press

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Leonard parred his last two for a 65. "It's a great week," Leonard said. "Would love to have made a few more putts today, but it's such a fun journey. I'm cutting my schedule back this year and all this does is kind of free me up to do that."

Other than the key 18-footer on No. 15, the longest putt Reed holed was a 5-footer for a par save on

the par-4 13th. That also was a crucial putt after he played the previous eight holes in 1 over with four bogeys, three birdies and a par. In that eight-hole stretch, Todd missed two 6-foot par putts and an 8-footer and dropped another stroke with a poor bunker shot on the par-3 12th. He two-putted for birdie on two par 5s and made a 4-footer on the par-4 eighth for the other birdie. □

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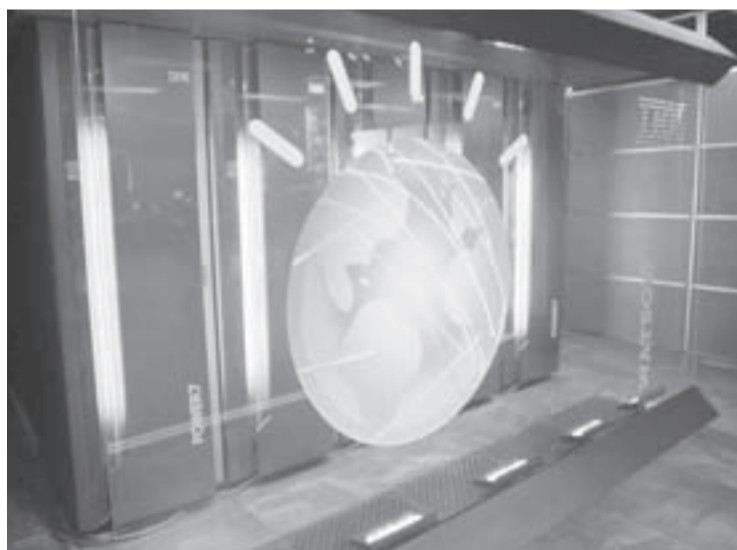
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Deutsche Bank posts Q4 net loss of \$1.3B

BERLIN (AP) - Deutsche Bank AG posted a fourth-quarter net loss of 965 million euros (\$1.3 billion) Sunday, citing lower revenues, one-time expenses and losses on investments it is getting rid of. The results fell below analysts' expectations, forcing Germany's biggest bank to bring forward the announcement of its fourth quarter results by 10 days. Deutsche Bank reported a net loss of 2.2 billion euros in the same quarter of 2012. Revenues during the fourth quarter were down 16 percent year-on-year at 6.6 billion euros. Full-year net profit was 1.1 billion euros, up from 700 million euros in 2012. The Frankfurt-based bank

said efforts to restructure its businesses affected financial results for the second successive year. The bank lost 1.1 billion euros in losses on investments it has set aside for disposal to reduce the risk it carries on its balance sheet. The bank took one-time losses for what it said were credit and debt valuations. It also had 528 million euros in expenses for litigation repeated to past disputed activities. "Nonetheless, underlying core business profitability was among the highest of the past decade, and we have made Deutsche Bank fitter, safer and better balanced," co-CEOs Juergen Fitschen and Anshu Jain were quoted as saying in a statement. □

IBM to invest over \$1.2B in cloud services



This Jan. 13, 2011 file photo provided by IBM shows the IBM computer system known as Watson.

Associated Press

ARMONK, New York (AP) — IBM plans to invest over \$1.2 billion to expand its cloud services operations. The computing services company said Friday that it will build 15 data centers around the world this year to add to the 12 it already operates and the 13 it recently acquired through its \$2 billion purchase of cloud computing company SoftLayer last year. Some of the newest data centers to launch are located in China, Hong Kong, London, Japan, India, Canada,

Mexico City, Washington, D.C., and Texas. IBM said it plans to have data centers in all major geographic regions and financial centers with plans to expand in the Middle East and Africa next year. IBM said the new investments will give its business clients the ability to place and control their data globally. Software stored and accessed on clouds is increasingly popular with businesses because it lets workers in from any Internet-connected device. □

Slumping Intel to cut more than 5,000 jobs in 2014



Intel CEO Brian Krzanich talks about a Windows and Android dual OS platform during a keynote address at the International Consumer Electronics Show, Monday, Jan. 6, 2014, in Las Vegas. Associated Press

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Intel plans to trim more than 5,000 jobs from its workforce this year in an effort to boost its earnings amid waning demand for its personal computer chips. The Santa Clara-based company confirmed the job cuts Friday, the day after Intel Corp. reported its profit and revenue had fallen for the second consecutive year. The purge represents about 5 percent of the roughly 108,000 jobs that Intel had on its payroll at the end of December. The company intends to jettison the jobs without laying off workers, said Intel spokesman Bill Calder. The reductions instead will be achieved through attrition, buyouts and early retirement offers. The company didn't esti-

mate how much money it hopes to save by eliminating jobs. But Intel needs to pare its expenses if it hopes to end a two-year slump that has seen its earnings fall from \$12.9 billion in 2011 to \$9.6 billion in 2013. Intel is forecasting its revenue this year will be about the same as in 2013, making it unlikely its profits can rise without cost cuts. This marks Intel's first significant job cuts since a company insider, Bryan Krzanich, succeeded Paul Otellini as CEO eight months ago. "We are constantly evaluating and realigning our resources to meet the needs of our business," Calder said. Intel's financial performance is faltering because the company didn't adapt quickly enough as the growing popularity of smartphones and tablet

computers undercut sales of PCs running on its chips. Worldwide PC sales have dropped from the previous year in seven consecutive quarters, an unprecedented decline. The trend is a problem for Intel because most mobile devices don't rely on its processors. As Intel has struggled to come up with a successful strategy for mobile computing, the company has turned into a stock market laggard. Since Intel's stock hit a five-year high of \$29.27 in May 2012, the shares have fallen by 12 percent. Meanwhile, the Standard & Poor's 500 index has climbed by 31 percent. Intel's stock dropped 69 cents Friday to close at \$25.85, then dipped another 4 cents in extended trading. □

Postal Service, union wrangle over Staples outlets

By SAM HANANEL \Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The opening of Postal Service retail centers in dozens of Staples stores around the country is being met with threats of protests and boycotts by the agency's unions.

The new outlets are staffed by Staples employees, not postal workers, and labor officials say that move replaces good-paying union jobs with low-wage, non-union workers.

"It's a direct assault on our jobs and on public postal services," said Mark Dimondstein, president of the 200,000-member American Postal Workers Union.

The dispute comes as the financially struggling Postal Service continues to form partnerships with private companies, and looks to cut costs and boost revenues. The deal with Staples began as a pilot program in November at 84 stores in California, Georgia, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania as a way make it easier for customers to buy stamps, send packages or use Priority and certified mail.

Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said the program has nothing to do with privatization and everything to do with customer service and driving up demand for the agency's products.

"The privatization discussion is a ruse," Donahoe said in an interview. "We have no interest in privatizing the Postal Service. We are looking to grow our business to provide customer convenience to

postal products."

Staples spokeswoman Carrie McElwee referred questions about union concerns to the Postal Service. She said the company "continually tests new products and services to better meet the needs of our customers."

Union leaders fear that if the Staples program is successful, the Postal Service will want to expand it to more than 1,500 of the company's other stores. That could siphon work and customers away from nearby brick-and-mortar post offices, taking jobs from postal workers and even leading traditional post offices to close.

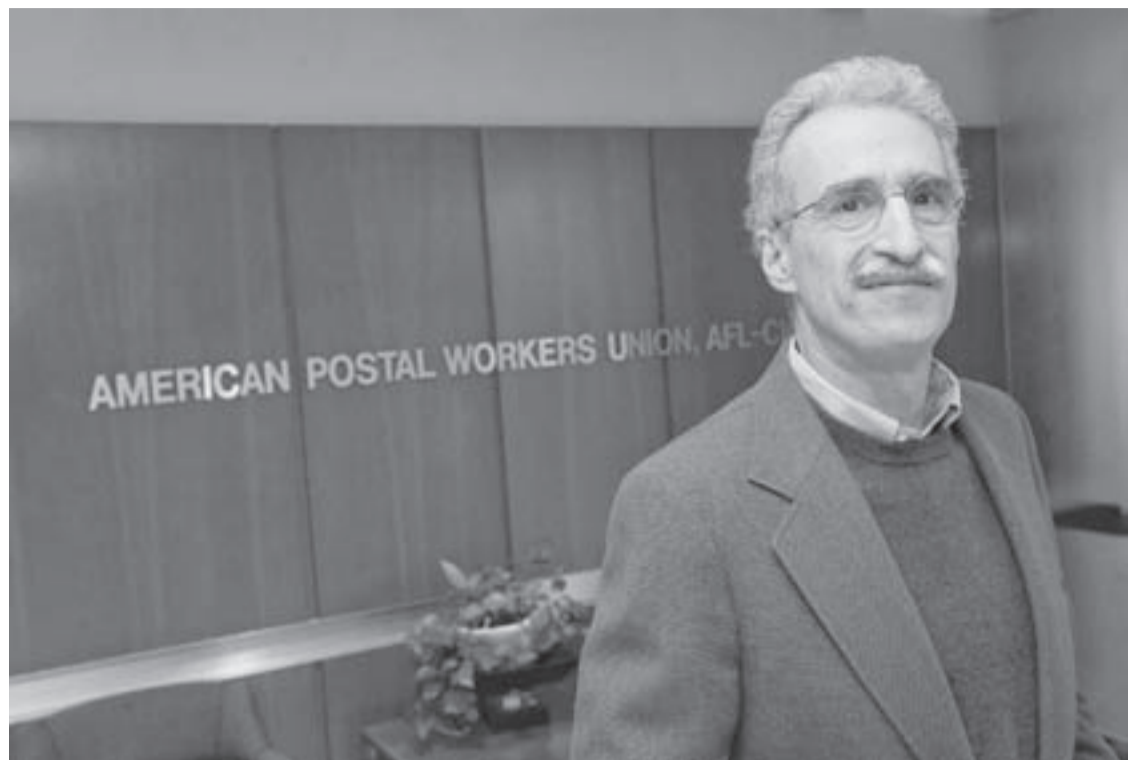
Union leaders have been visiting Staples stores to meet with managers, asking them to share the union's displeasure with upper management.

Dimondstein asked to meet with the Staples CEO Ronald Sargent, who has declined.

The union plans to hold "sustained" protests this month at Staples stores in the San Francisco and San Jose, Calif., area that would be expanded elsewhere. Union officials also are considering how they can exert pressure on Staples shareholders.

"If Staples insists on continuing to refuse to staff those stores with postal workers, we're going to urge people to take their business elsewhere," Dimondstein said.

The union says it's not asking to shut down the program. It wants the counters to be run by postal em-



Mark Dimondstein, president of the American Postal Workers Union poses for a photo at their Washington headquarters, Friday, Jan. 17, 2014.

Associated Press

ployees, not workers hired by Staples. The average postal clerk earns about \$25 an hour, according to the union, plus a generous package of health and retirement benefits. The Staples post office counters are run by nonunion workers often making little more than the minimum wage.

The Postal Service increasingly has looked to work with the private sector to help increase business. In November, it announced a lucrative deal with Amazon to begin package delivery on Sunday.

The agency has struggled for years with declining mail volume, but the lion's share of its financial plight stems from a 2006 congressional requirement that it make annual \$5.6 billion payments to cov-

er expected health care costs for future retirees. It has defaulted on three of those payments. The Postal Service lost \$5 billion over the past year, though operating revenue rose 1.2 percent. So far, the Postal Service has rebuffed the union's demands. As far as who will staff the counters, "that's Staples' business. They make their own business decisions and it has nothing to do with us," Donahoe said.

Donahoe said he'd like to see post office counters in every Staples store "as soon as possible." But he doesn't see them as replacing any of the 33,000 traditional post offices. He said he sees the program as an opportunity "to grow the business."

James O'Rourke, a professor of management at the University of Notre Dame, said the Postal Service is simply following the trend of other businesses such as banks and medical clinics opening in grocery and drug stores to get more customers and save overhead costs.

"You can't blame the union for looking suspiciously at this move, but from the perspective of postal management and postal customers, this is all good," O'Rourke said.

Donahoe acknowledged

that it could save money in employee costs, but insisted that is not the agency's motivating force. Since 2008, the Postal Service has reduced its employees by more than 200,000, mainly through attrition.

"Keeping our expenses down is no different than what any other business would do," he said.

Back in 1988, the Postal Service tried a similar plan to put retail units in Sears stores in Chicago and Madison, Wis. APWU members picketed Sears headquarters in Chicago, mailed thousands of letters of protest to then Sears Chairman Ed Brennan and even cut up their Sears credit cards.

The pressure worked and a year later the program ended, with Sears saying it did not want to be at the center of a dispute between the Postal Service and the union. But the APWU's membership now is almost half of what it was 25 years ago, and unions don't carry the same clout they once did.

Dimondstein, who took the helm of his union in November and pledges a more activist approach, insists his members will bring considerable pressure on Staples. "I think we have a lot of clout," he said. "We're in every hamlet, town, city and state in the country." □

Boeing, Etihad to develop aviation biofuels

Aircraft maker Boeing Co., Etihad Airways, the oil company Total and others say they will work together on a program to develop an aviation biofuel industry in the United Arab Emirates.

Boeing says in a news release Sunday that the program will involve research and development and in-

vestments in production of fuels derived from plants that can power aircraft.

Etihad is based in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates.

The other participants are Takreer, a subsidiary of Abu Dhabi National Oil Co., and the Masdar Institute of Sci-

ence and Technology, located in Abu Dhabi.

Boeing says Etihad ran a 45-minute demonstration flight Saturday in a Boeing 777 partially powered by aviation biofuel produced in the UAE.

Boeing also has aviation biofuels programs with U.S. and other airlines. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Philanthropists pay bills for SF 'Batkid' fantasy



This Nov. 15, 2013, file photo, shows Miles Scott, 5, dressed as Batkid, second from left, raising his arm next to Batman at a rally outside of City Hall with Mayor Ed Lee, left, and his mother Natalie Scott, right, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

The city of San Francisco is being rescued from paying the cost of staging the "Batkid" fantasy that captured the nation's imagination. Philanthropists John and Marcia Goldman are picking up the city's \$105,000 tab for allowing Miles Scott, a 5-year-old Northern California boy with leukemia, to fight villains and rescue a damsel in distress as a caped crusader on Nov. 15.

Maria Kong of the John and Marcia Goldman Foundation confirmed a San Francisco Chronicle report Sunday about the couple's gift. City officials say most of the \$105,000 in public funds went toward renting a sound system, video screens and other equipment to accommodate the surprisingly large crowds that turned out to see "Batkid," who became a social media darling.

The elaborate fantasy was arranged by the Make-A-Wish Foundation. □

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Google contact lens could be option for diabetics

MARTHA MENDOZA

**AP National Writer
MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.**

(AP) — Brian Otis gingerly holds what looks like a typical contact lens on his index finger. Look closer. Sandwiched in this lens are two twinkling glitter-specks loaded with tens of thousands of miniaturized transistors.

It's ringed with a hair-thin antenna. Together these remarkable miniature electronics can monitor glucose levels in tears of diabetics and then wirelessly transmit them to a handheld device.

"It doesn't look like much, but it was a crazy amount of work to get everything so very small," he said before the project was unveiled Thursday.

During years of soldering hair-thin wires to miniaturize electronics, Otis burned his fingertips so often that he can no longer feel the tiny chips he made from scratch in Google's Silicon Valley headquarters, a small price to pay for what he says is the smallest wireless glucose sensor ever made.

Just 35 miles (55 kilometers) away in the beach town of Santa Cruz, high school soccer coach and university senior Michael



Google Glucose Monitor

This undated photo released by Google shows a contact lens Google is testing to explore tear glucose.

Vahradian, 21, has his own set of fingertip callouses, his from pricking himself up to 10 times a day for the past 17 years to draw blood for his glucose meter.

A cellphone-sized pump on his hip that attaches to a flexible tube implanted in his stomach shoots rapid-acting insulin into his body around the clock.

"I remember at first it

was really hard to make the needle sticks a habit because it hurt so much," he said.

"And there are still times I don't want to do it — it hurts and it's inconvenient.

When I'm hanging out with friends, heading down to the beach to body-surf or going to lunch, I have to hold everyone up to take my blood sugar."

The idea that all of that monitoring could be going on passively, through a contact lens, is especially promising for the world's 382 million diabetics who need insulin and keep a close watch on their blood sugar.

The prototype, which Google says will take at least five years to reach consumers, is one of several medical devices being designed by companies to make glucose monitoring for diabetic patients more convenient and less invasive than traditional finger pricks.

The contact lenses were developed during the past 18 months in the clandestine Google X lab that also came up with a driverless car, Google's Web-surfing eyeglasses and Project Loon, a network of large balloons

designed to beam the Internet to unwired places. But research on the contact lenses began several years earlier at the University of Washington, where scientists worked under National Science Foundation funding.

Until Thursday, when Google shared information about the project with The Associated Press, the work had been kept under wraps.

"You can take it to a certain level in an academic setting, but at Google we were given the latitude to invest in this project," Otis said. "The beautiful thing is we're leveraging all of the innovation in the semiconductor industry that was aimed at making cellphones smaller and more powerful."

American Diabetes Association board chair Dwight Holing said he's gratified that creative scientists are searching for solutions for people with diabetes but warned that the device must provide accurate and timely information.

"People with diabetes base very important health care decisions on the data we get from our monitors," he said.

Other non-needle glucose monitoring systems are also in the works, including a similar contact lens by Netherlands-based NovioSense, a minuscule, flexible spring that is tucked under an eyelid. Israel-based OrSense has already tested a thumb cuff, and there have been early designs for tattoos and saliva sensors.

A wristwatch monitor was approved by the FDA in 2001, but patients said the low level electric currents pulling fluid from their skin was painful, and it was buggy.

"There are a lot of people who have big promises," said Dr. Christopher Wilson, CEO of NovioSense. "It's just a question of who gets to market with something that really works first."

Palo Alto Medical Foundation endocrinologist Dr. Larry Levin said it was remarkable and important that a tech firm like Google is getting into the medical field and that he'd like to be able to offer his patients a pain-free alternative from either pricking their fingers or living with a thick needle embedded in their stomach for constant monitoring.

"Google, they're innovative, they are up on new technologies, and also we have to be honest here, the driving force is money," he said.

Worldwide, the glucose-monitoring devices market is expected to be more than \$16 billion by the end of this year, according to analysts at Renub Research.

The Google team built the wireless chips in clean rooms and used advanced engineering to get integrated circuits and a glucose sensor into such a small space.

Researchers also had to build in a system to pull energy from incoming radio frequency waves to power the device enough to collect and transmit one glucose reading per second. The embedded electronics in the lens don't obscure vision because they lie outside the eye's pupil and iris. □

U.S. OKs mental disability blood test for infants

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration has cleared a first-of-a-kind blood test that can help predict intellectual disabilities in infants by analyzing their genetic code. The laboratory test from Afymetrix detects variations in patients' chromosomes that are linked to Down syndrome, DiGeorge syndrome and other developmental disorders. About 2 to 3 percent of U.S. children have some sort of intellectual disability, according to the National Institutes of

Health. The test, known as the CytoScan Dx Assay, is designed to help doctors diagnose children's disabilities earlier and get them appropriate care and support. It is not intended for prenatal screening or for predicting other genetically acquired diseases and conditions, such as cancer. Currently U.S. hospitals are required to screen newborns for at least 29 disorders that can be detected through laboratory testing, including sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis. □

'Ride Along' rolls into No. 1 spot at box office

DERRIK J. LANG

AP Entertainment Writer
LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Ride Along" arrived in first place at the weekend box office. The Universal buddy cop comedy featuring Kevin Hart and Ice Cube debuted with \$41.2 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. The strong opening for "Ride Along" marks the biggest debut for a film released during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday weekend and puts it on track to top the \$40.1 million record set by the 2008 monster movie "Cloverfield" for the biggest opening of January. "It certainly appears with business at this level and with a CinemaScore of A and our exit polls supporting that, it's safe to say we'll break a few records," said Nikki Rocco, head of distribution for Universal. "Ride Along" is the first feature film starring role for Hart, whose box-office status has been on the rise since the success of his

2013 stand-up film "Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain" and memorable stints in such movies as "Think Like a Man," "This Is the End" and "Grudge Match." "He's everywhere it seems," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak. "I know he was co-starring with Ice Cube in 'Ride Along,' but this really was marketed as a Kevin Hart movie. There's no question he's a movie star now who doesn't require any qualifications before his name." In second place, Universal's Navy SEAL drama "Lone Survivor" starring Mark Wahlberg, Taylor Kitsch, Emile Hirsch and Ben Foster earned \$23.2 million in its second weekend in wide release, bringing its domestic total to \$74 million. Open Road Films' animated film "The Nut Job" featuring the voices of Will Arnett and Brendan Fraser opened in third place with \$20.6 million. The weekend's other major



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Ice Cube, right, and Kevin Hart in a scene from "Ride Along."

Associated Press

Fallon and Crystal among Jay Leno's final guests

By BETH HARRIS

Associated Press
PASADENA, Calif. (AP) -- Jay Leno will close out his 22-year run as host of NBC's "The Tonight Show" with a nod to the future and to the past. His heir apparent, Jimmy Fallon, will kick off Leno's final week with a guest appearance on Feb. 3. Fallon is taking over the gig after hosting NBC's "Late Night" since 2009. Leno's final night, on Feb. 6, will feature Billy Crystal, who was Leno's first guest in May 1992 when he succeeded Johnny Carson. Country superstar Garth Brooks will also appear. Leno's last week will also include Betty White, Matthew McConaughey, Sandra Bullock, country singer Blake Shelton, musician Lyle Lovett and NBA Hall of Famer Charles Barkley. Fallon starts his run on Feb. 17 during the second week of the network's Olympics coverage. As a result,

the "Tonight Show" will air at midnight following the nightly games coverage from Sochi, Russia. On Feb. 24, the show will revert to its regular 11:35 p.m. slot. Leno left the show in 2009 to host a prime time talk show, with Conan O'Brien replacing him on "Tonight." After six months of poor ratings for both men, O'Brien was out at "Tonight" and Leno returned to his old gig. NBC Entertainment president Robert Greenblatt is hoping to continue the network's relationship with Leno after he leaves late night. "I would love him to do specials with us, and we've got ideas about other sorts of shows he can host," Greenblatt said Sunday at the Television Critics Association meeting. "As he told me recently, NBC has really been his only home." He said Leno didn't want to discuss his future until he finished his final week.

new releases, Paramount's spy series reboot "Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit" and the Fox horror flick "Devil's Due," respectively opened in fourth and seventh place. "Jack Ryan," which stars Chris Pine in the titular role, debuted with a disappointing \$17.2 million. The film directed by and also featuring Kenneth Branagh

performed better overseas, where it nabbed \$22.2 million in 29 international markets. "Devil's Due" featuring Zach Gilford and Allison Miller as parents expecting their first child amid spooky occurrences birthed \$8.5 million in its opening weekend. Several films nominated for Academy Awards last

week received a bump at the North American box office following their nods on Thursday, including "American Hustle" in sixth place with \$10.6 million, "August: Osage County" in eighth place with \$7.6 million and "The Wolf of Wall Street" in ninth place with \$7.5 million. "The Wolf of Wall Street" also scored \$27 million in 19 international territories.

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Dramas illustrate rapid change in television

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

PASADENA, California (AP)

— Creators of two of the most indelible dramas on network television in the last decade, "Lost" and "Desperate Housewives," are making programs for cable networks now, and they speak with the zeal of the happily converted.

"Now that we're all here together, we can definitively agree that cable is far superior to network," said Damon Lindelof, who worked on ABC's "Lost" and is making a similarly complex new program for HBO, "The Leftovers."

The changing balance of power — and how proud broadcasters are fighting back — is the subtext to meetings with television industry leaders and reporters in Pasadena this month. Nowhere is that more clear than in the field of dramas. Once often content to air reruns, cable networks are busy establishing themselves as creators. There are 180 scripted original series on cable this year, up from 22 in 2002, said



In a Thursday, Jan. 9, 2014 file photo, creator and executive producer Marc Cherry speaks on stage at the Lifetime/A&E Winter Press Tour, in Pasadena, Calif.

John Landgraf, FX network chief. Services like Netflix are jumping in, too.

More important than numbers is the perception that cable is the place to turn for quality. It started with "The Sopranos," and continues with awards and critical attention showered on the likes of "Mad

Men," "Homeland" and "Breaking Bad." The idea is reinforced when many of television's key creative minds argue that cable is the place to be.

Marc Cherry, creator of "Desperate Housewives," said that making the soap "Devious Maids" for Lifetime "has been just a joy-

ous creative experience."

To be fair, Cherry took "Devious Maids" to ABC first and was rejected. Now he revels in the creative freedom, saying he gets less second-guessing.

Cherry said he has more time to work on the writing, and can include more intricate details. After acknowledging now that he went into the critically drubbed second season of "Desperate Housewives" with no plan, he learned he needs to have an idea of what will happen in a second season before beginning the first.

Cable offers a measure of security that broadcasters, with more intense commercial pressures, can't match. A cable series is rarely canceled in the middle of a season.

The grind of a typical broadcast schedule, requiring some 22 episodes a year, also wears on creators — particularly now that they see an alternative. Most cable "seasons" are half that, or less. That improves quality, Lindelof said.

"You're not needing to fill weeks of story that are non-essential," he said. "So, hopefully, every episode of 'The Leftovers' will feel like it needs to exist versus it's just this very kind of fibrous bridge that exists between two essential

episodes which all of us as TV fans, you know, really find incredibly frustrating to watch."

Before one conference last week, producers of several CBS dramas admitted grumbling backstage about their workload.

"That's an insatiable appetite," said Jonathan Nolan, "Person of Interest" executive producer, "which is a great thing that the audience wants more of what you're making, but it is very difficult. I feel like that number is probably calibrated ... not to the length of the season or production schedules, but to the exact point at which a showrunner (producer) will have a nervous breakdown."

What Nolan finds exciting about being on CBS is the immediacy, writing a scene and seeing it on the air a few weeks later.

It's not like broadcasters are bereft. CBS' "The Good Wife," NBC's "The Blacklist" and ABC's "Scandal" are popular and creatively strong. Broadcasters still have a reach that cable networks can't match. Television's most popular show, "NCIS" on CBS, has roughly 20 million viewers for each new episode, twice as many as AMC's buzz worthy "The Walking Dead."

"It's a privilege to reach an audience the size that we're able to reach in broadcast," said "NCIS" executive producer Gary Glasberg. "The fact that we're in our 11th season and we have the viewership that we do, 18 million Facebook fans, that's crazy. And, you know, that's because I'm on broadcast."

Networks are now looking for more limited-run series. Over the past year, CBS, NBC and Fox have each assigned executives to look specifically for these types of projects. Veteran producer Mark Burnett and his wife, Roma Downey, successful with "The Bible" miniseries on History last year, signed with CBS to adapt "The Dovekeepers" to television for a miniseries. □

NBC renews 'Parks & Recreation' for 7th season



This image released by NBC shows Amy Poehler accepting the award for best actress in a comedy series for her role in "Parks and Recreation" during the 71st annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Sunday, Jan. 12, 2014, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)

The future is looking bright at NBC for Golden Globe winner Amy Poehler, not so much for Michael J. Fox.

NBC entertainment president Robert Greenblatt said Sunday that Poehler's

"Parks & Recreation" will be back for a seventh season next fall. Poehler, host of last week's Golden Globe ceremony, won a Globe for best comedy actress for her role as a small town bureaucrat.

NBC also signed a production deal with Poehler and

committed to making a pilot for a comedy that she is writing, tentatively titled "Old Soul."

Greenblatt, at a news conference, couldn't hide his disappointment with the performance of Michael J. Fox's Thursday comedy - "The Michael J. Fox Show" - although he made no official comment about its prospects beyond this year.

With an average of just below 4 million viewers this season, those prospects can't be good. The Nielsen company said the episode that aired Jan. 9 was seen by 3.1 million viewers.

"We like that show, we like Sean Hayes' show, too," Greenblatt said. "We're really unhappy that we can't find an audience for them in those time periods."

Greenblatt said Fox's comedy, which mirrors the actor's own life with him portraying a television per-

The Asbestos Scam, Part 2



Joe Nocera

© 2014 New York Times News Service

Six weeks ago, I wrote a column about a ridiculous lawsuit being brought by Carolyn McCarthy, a congresswoman from Long Island. A smoker for most of her life, McCarthy has lung cancer. Yet her lawyers claimed that it was her "exposure" to asbestos, through the work clothes of her father and brother, both boiler-makers, that triggered her cancer. Though McCarthy certainly deserves our sympathy as she fights cancer, it is hard to see her lawsuit as anything but an undeserved money grab - and the latest twist in asbestos litigation, the longest running tort in American history, with no end in sight.

Then again, maybe there is finally an end in sight. Late Friday afternoon, Judge George Hodges, a federal bankruptcy judge in North Carolina, wrote a breathtaking decision, in which he essentially pulled the lid off another form of asbestos scam. Though he shrank from labeling the actions of the plaintiffs' lawyers involved in the case as "fraudulent," he did describe the litigation as "infected with the impropriety of some law firms." It's a potential game-changer.

There are two reasons it can be difficult to write about asbestos lawsuits. The first is that the modern-day plaintiff truly is sick - if not with lung cancer then with mesothelioma, a deadly disease that results from extensive exposure to asbestos decades earlier. Given the rules of American society, mesothelioma victims undoubtedly deserve compensation from whichever company used the product that caused their illness. The second reason is that asbestos litigation has become more complicated than 3-D chess. For years, it was easy to explain the scam: People who weren't sick were being diagnosed with asbestosis by doctors being paid by asbestos lawyers. That has largely ended - hence the current emphasis on mesothelioma lawsuits, which have the added advantage (for the lawyers) of being potentially multimillion-dollar cases. Today, with around 100 companies having been bankrupted by asbestos litigation, and \$37 billion set aside in trusts for victims, you would think the litigation would be winding down. Guess again.

Enter Garlock Sealing Technologies, a maker of gaskets. For

years, it was on the periphery of asbestos litigation because, while its gaskets had once contained asbestos, it was a kind that had 1/100th of the risk of the more commonly used product. In addition, the asbestos was sealed, usually behind far-more-dangerous asbestos insulation made by some other, more culpable, company.

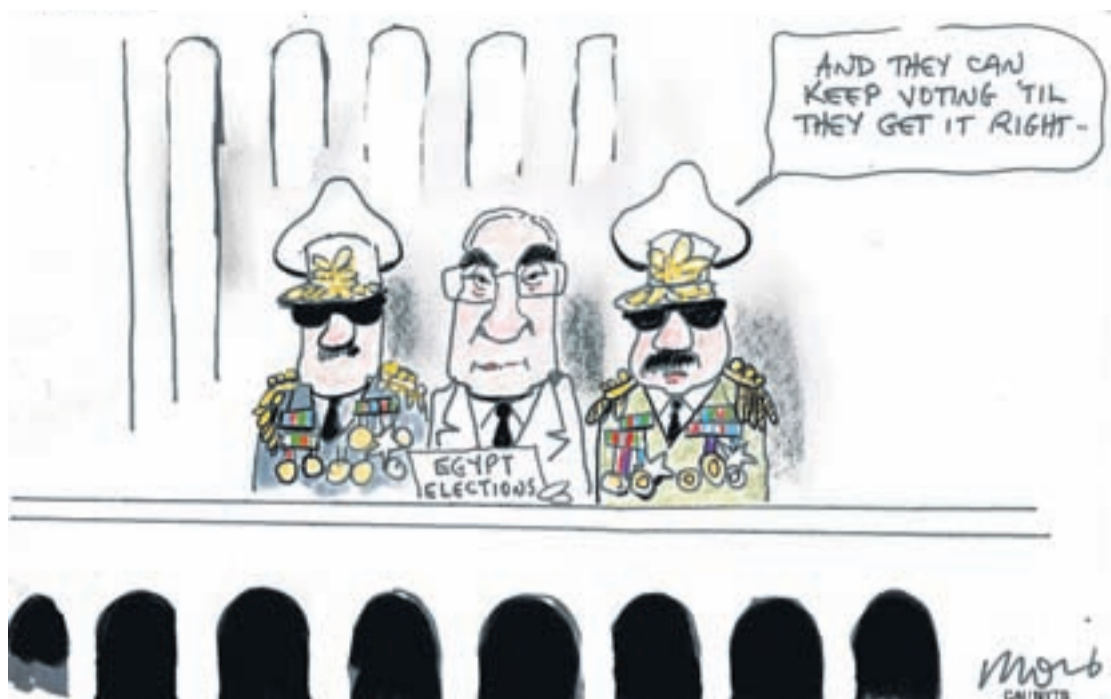
Stephen Macadam, the chief executive of EnPro, Garlock's parent company, told me that he had expected that the litigation pressure would ease on Garlock as other companies succumbed to bankruptcy and set up trusts for victims. Instead, the opposite happened. Garlock became a prime target, precisely because it was still standing.

For years, Garlock had made calculated decisions about how to deal with its asbestos litigation. It fought some cases and settled others. But, by 2010, inundated with mesothelioma cases, it too filed for bankruptcy protection. Then it did something different. It fought back.

The judge allowed the company to do a deep dive into 15 cases that Garlock had previously settled. For a victim to demand money from Garlock, he or she had to stipulate that Garlock's gasket had been a primary exposure to asbestos. To maximize the money they could get from Garlock, they would deny, under oath, other exposures to the products of the bankrupt companies that had set up trusts. But as Garlock soon discovered, no sooner had the victims settled then they would file documents with a dozen or more trusts stipulating the opposite: that they had had "meaningful and credible exposure" to asbestos from the bankrupt companies. (The plaintiffs' lawyers, who control the trusts, have successfully fought to keep this information confidential.) Judge Hodges, in his decision, seemed thunderstruck that this pattern occurred in every case that Garlock investigated. The phrase he used to describe this behavior was "withholding evidence."

It would have been helpful if this decision had come a half a decade ago, before so many companies were forced into bankruptcy. But maybe, just maybe, other companies will start to follow Garlock's example and finally put an end to the asbestos scam.

As to why anyone should care whether innocent companies have to pay millions to asbestos victims and their lawyers, I would offer three reasons. First, when victims get more than they should under the rules, it means that someone else down the road will wind up with less than he or she should. Second, litigation designed to bring innocent companies to their knees is an impediment to economic growth and job creation. □



Tines That Try Men's Souls



Maureen Dowd

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Far be it from me to defend what Jon Stewart has demolished. But I would like to speak up on behalf of the fledgling New York mayor's de Blasphemy, now universally deemed his first mistake and possibly grounds for impeachment: daintily carving up his smoked-mozzarella-and-sausage pizza at Goodfellas in Staten Island with a knife and fork.

I'm not saying it's right. I know it's wrong. I'm just saying I do it, too. I eat pizza with a knife and fork because I want only the gooey stuff on top, not the crust.

(When I first started in The Times' Washington bureau, I soothed my nerves by noshing on pizzas slathered with mashed potatoes, a dish that required a spoon and bigger jeans.)

I almost didn't become a Times columnist because of a de Blasio-like faux pas. When Arthur Sulzberger Jr. took me to breakfast to discuss the possibility of a column, we were talking when he suddenly looked dismayed. I thought it was my ZERO knowledge about NATO, but it wasn't. "Why," he asked me, "are you eating your muffin with a knife and fork?"

I thought I was being ladylike, which might have been de Blasio's problem as well. The photos looked way too ladylike for the 6-foot-5 mayor. It seemed more like the prissy move of Warren Wilhelm Jr. of Cambridge - his original name which he changed be-

cause of his estrangement from his alcoholic father - than the paesano Bill de Blasio of Brooklyn.

Fearing my future depended on it, I immediately clutched the muffin. But switching to your hands midway, as the mayor also did, simply makes you seem feckless as well as forkless; better to stick to your guns, and tines.

David Letterman's Top Ten "Odd Habits of Mayor Bill de Blasio" on Monday featured this one: "Refers to himself as 'Her Majesty.'"

Indeed, when FDR served King George VI and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, their first hot dogs on a 1939 visit to America, the confused queen ate hers with a knife and fork, afraid to heed the president's advice to pick it up and relish it. Pizza can be hazardous to an administration. We all remember what happened when a Clinton intern delivered a pie to the Oval Office during a government shutdown.

But de Blasio's offense was so trivial that the most irritating part was the labor-loving mayor's labored explanation, grandly attributing it to "my ancestral homeland."

"I have been in Italy a lot, and I picked up the habit for certain types of pizza," he told reporters. "So when you have a pizza like this, it had a lot on it, I often start with a knife and fork but then I cross over to the American approach and pick it up when I go farther into the pizza. It's a very complicated approach, but I like it."

He sounded like a parody of the self-serious New York liberal, convinced he's right about everything from the Sandinistas to stop-and-frisk to a slice in Staten Island.

De Blasio sounded alarmingly like Zosia Mamet's mega-rambling character, fellow Brooklynite Shoshanna Shapiro, on a recent "Girls," when she quizzes a quizical Adam about his favorite utensil.

When he says, "I guess a fork," she lectures: "OK, that is crazy. Like, why would you want a cold

metal prong stabbing you in the tongue when instead you could have food delivered into your mouth on, like, a cool, soft, pillow-y cloud?"

The new mayor should have just laughed it off. Then he might not have ended up getting reduced to rubble by Jon Stewart, who asked "the champion of the middle class:" "Were you elected the mayor of Italy? No! Look out the window of the pizzeria. ... Do you see a Sistine Chapel or a Leaning Tower of Pisa? No, you don't! You see several junkyards and a tanning salon."

Unlike de Blasio, some pols use food as a way to seem more populist. The aristocratic Poppy Bush pretended his favorite snack was pork rinds, offsetting his request for "just a splash" more coffee at a New Hampshire truck-stop diner.

As with Christie the Bully, embarrassing incidents hurt politicians when they resonate about a deeper suspicion.

Sargent Shriver calling for a Courvoisier in an Ohio mill town bar. Jerry Ford at the Alamo, biting into a tamale without removing the corn husk. Jimmy Carter's fishing trip that turned into "Paws," fending off a Killer Rabbit. Michael Dukakis advising farmers to grow Belgian endive, and Barack Obama talking the price of arugula. When John Kerry ordered Swiss cheese on his Philly cheesesteak in 2003, it buoyed Republican efforts to paint him as a Frenchie, fromage-loving surrender monkey.

"The whiff of a limousine-liberal factor," GOP strategist Mike Murphy told me, does not hurt de Blasio because he comes off as such "a humble, likable guy. He lacks the firing-squad instinct that makes for a true Commie leader."

The question lurking beneath the surface with de Blasio is: Has he been promoted out of his league?

The answer can't be determined when he devours his Staten Island pizza as though he were at the Tower of Pisa. □

Tonight at 8PM at Palm Beach Plaza Mall:

Aruba's Majestic Carnival Season Comes To Life!



PALM BEACH - Palm Beach Plaza Mall new majestic carnival season has started at Aruba's largest mall. The Aruba Carnival is a thrilling

show of over-the-top pagentry, produced by thousands and delighting and uniting the entire country. Here's the scoop on how it

began. Carnival was born in 1954, as a series of small street festivals. The Tivoli Club, Aruba's oldest private so-

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cial club, was the first to have a pre-Lenten celebration in Oranjestad in February 1944. The Allied victory of World War II was commemorated by an Aruba Festival - a large parade in San Nicolas comprised largely of Caribbean-English immigrants who came to Aruba to work at the Lago Oil Refinery.

The first steel and brass bands debuted a few

years later and small parades sprouted here and there.

Tonight at 8PM, Palm Beach Plaza Mall will have a great Carnival Show where you can experience for yourself the taste of Aruba's Carnival culture with the opportunity to take pictures with the majestic carnival dancers with carnival costumes. Come and enjoy the show! □

